



PLATANOS COLLEGE

An outstanding school for
pupils of all abilities

E-Newsletter

Monday 2nd June 2014

Issue 10

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

Welcome to the new edition of the Newsletter. This is by far the most challenging term for us in the school.

- Teachers and managers will meet in the coming weeks to plan for the new National Curriculum, especially for pupils in Years 7, 8 and 9.
- There are Year 11 final examinations, followed by a Graduation which is now known as the "Prom".
- We will be checking the progress of all the pupils in the school to ascertain the learning gaps and to closely set new targets for all pupils.
- Our Year 10 pupils will do a two week Work Experience placement and work towards a Health and Safety qualification.
- We welcome the Year 6 pupils who will be our new Year 7 pupils in September. There is an excellent programme of support for Year 6 pupils to ensure that this vital part of their education is successful.
- We will review our key Policies and Procedures in preparation for the new academic year.

CURRICULUM EVENINGS/AWARDS EVENING

Once again, we look forward to meeting you at the Curriculum Evenings and indeed at the Awards Evening. They are very special events and really 'seal' the year for us. It is wonderful to watch pupils receive rewards for their hard work and commitment to their learning and to wider school life.

EXTENSIVE VISITS AND ACTIVITIES BOTH IN THIS COUNTRY AND ABROAD

- Parade Day will take place on Saturday 12th July 2014. This is a key event when we celebrate our uniformed services within the school such as the Cadets, Scouts, Guides and the St. John Ambulance service. We also reflect on past wars such as the First and Second World Wars and those wars taking place across the globe. We meet 'real' heroes and heroines. Our

pupils donate funds raised to charities such as Help for Heroes and the Red Cross. It is also a lovely family event.

- Many trips are planned abroad including a residential to Spain.
- Successful pupils will take part in many educational trips throughout the UK.
- Our annual Business Fayre takes place on the last day of term, which is organised by the pupils. Please try to attend this excellent event.

Finally, I say without hesitation or reservation that God is with us, especially with our wonderful pupils. Always.

Yours sincerely,

J. Tapper
Headteacher

Achievement Awards

We believe that every pupil has the potential to achieve beyond their expectations. We are proud of our pupils and we are keen to celebrate these achievements to recognise their hard work over the term.

The Achievement Awards for Key Stage 3 last term was a wonderful occasion yet again. We were pleased to see an increased number of pupils receiving awards for their outstanding achievement. The awards ceremonies also recognised our CHABOP winners. The CHABOP merit system stands for:

CLASSWORK
HOMEWORK
ATTENDANCE
BEHAVIOUR
ORGANISATION
PUNCTUALITY



A very well done to the following pupils for their outstanding achievement.

Year 7 Award Winners

English

Outstanding Achievement:
Bethlehem Fikrie

Outstanding Progress:
Kelvin Tran

Maths

Outstanding Progress:
Caterina Oliveira
Mariana Ribeiro

Outstanding Achievement:
Muntasiah Miah



Science

Outstanding Progress:
Misky Shirifjumco
Tiago Da Silva

Outstanding Achievement:
Miseb Gjetaj
Kelly Saraiva

Technology

Outstanding Achievement:
Maria Mata
Misky Shirifjumco
Payham Mohamed
Lorine Etienne

Outstanding Progress:
Laura Moco
Danishai Thompson
Ashreya Jimi
Barbara Pais

Supported Curriculum

Outstanding Achievement:
Paulina Palacios Zuniga
Joao Alves

Outstanding Progress:
Lanre Anjoin
Wifa Tracy Girbong

Music

Outstanding Progress:
Breon Williams

Outstanding Achievement:
Bella Petch

MFL

Outstanding Achievement:
Tania Pinto
Keni Duguma

Outstanding Progress:
Alima Aglakova
Miseb Gjetaj

Art

Outstanding Achievement:
Harrison Sousa
Bella Petch

Outstanding Progress:
El Peart-Chapman
Kingsley Ezenwoye

PE

Outstanding Progress:
Jeyda Rochester
Elmi Hassan

Outstanding Achievement:
Bella Petch
Daniel Roberts-Stamp

Accelerated Reading

Bronze:

Miriam Ramos
Ventsislav Palev

Silver:

Bethlehem Fikrie
Sundas Ahmed
Vanessa Pestana

Gold:

Bryan Teles



**100% Attendance
and Punctuality**

Tiaga Da Silva

Sam Learning

Ayub Ahmed
Jaheim Echibima-Thullah
Leandro Amaral
Amina Diblawe
Keni Dugma

Top 3 CHABOP pupils of the term

Keni Dugma (222 pts)
Bryan Teles (251 pts)
Alima Aglakova (263 pts)

Winner of the iPod Nano prize draw (100-199 merits)

Paulo Azevedo

Winner of the Kindle Fire prize draw (200-299 merits)

Vicky Do Mai

Pupil of the Term Kindle HD prize

Bethlehem Fikrie



Year 8 Award Winners

English

Outstanding Achievement:
Nadia Malik-Ahmed

Outstanding Progress:
Kobby Adu-Ntiamoah

Science

Outstanding Progress:
Ziyi Yao
Nathanael Clarke

Outstanding Achievement:
Sarah Suleman
Ade Adebayo

Maths

Outstanding Achievement:
Jason La
Daniela Louro

Outstanding Progress:
James Lau
Hanna Babate
Ana De Lima Alencar

MFL

Outstanding Achievement:
Jessica Broadhurst
Ricardo Sewell

Outstanding Progress:
Samiha Parvez
Dominik Quang

PE

Outstanding Progress:
Atiah Nembhard
Ivan Palev

Outstanding Achievement:
Ademola Ogunnowo
Paulo Reis Marques

ICT

Outstanding Achievement:
Ziyi Yao
Dominic Quang

Outstanding Progress:
Meshan Grazette

Technology

Outstanding Achievement:

Bernado Coelho
Rami Miller
Jose Cardoso
Sebastian Tomczak

Outstanding Progress:

Atiah Newbhard
Hamza Khalif
Shakil Islam
Jennifer De Sousa



CHABOP Winners

Ade Adebayo (300+ pts) – Prize: Bicycle

Francisco Ferreira (200–299 pts) – Prize: Kindle tablet

Faiyaz Khan (100-199 pts) – Prize: iPod shuffle

Jhostin Salinas Soria (70-99 pts) – Prize: Family cinema tickets

Edwin Karten (50–69 pts) – Prize: £20 JD Sports Voucher

Drama

Outstanding Achievement:

Kanyinsola Oladipo
Paulo Reis Marques

Outstanding Progress:

Anthony Otoo
Jason Gallego

100% Attendance and Punctuality Darwin Reyes

Year 9 Award Winners

English

Outstanding Achievement:

Sajidha Rahman
Tia John
Alina Talebi

Outstanding Progress:

Fadumo Ahmed
Yasiin Maxamoud
Adina Graham

Maths

Outstanding Achievement:

Abdulrahim Ayman
Rodrigues Mariana

Outstanding Progress:

Awelu Umer Hateem
Rahman Sajidha
Nabilah Ahmed
Safiya Abdi-Nur
Alejandra Moreno-Dominguez

Science

Outstanding Progress:

Shanze Yao
Keyla Munoz-Guilcapi

Outstanding Achievement:

Joao Couto
Marian Mohamoud

MFL

Outstanding Achievement:

Ma Meco Tesoro
John Roberto

Outstanding Progress:

Fadumo Ahmed
CJ Okoli

PE

Outstanding Progress:

Rachel Clarke
Daniel Matthews

Outstanding Achievement:

Julia Tomczak
Andrew Pham

Technology

Outstanding Achievement:

Kamel Abraham
Joao Couta

Outstanding Progress:

Anthony Daley
Taila Sian Bloomfield
Lorren Lamoth Bell
Mali Bay

Drama

Outstanding Achievement:

Christopher Mills
Nikita Brown
Keyla Munoz
Diana Bazan
Francisco Ramalho
Shaniela Lindsay

Art

Outstanding Achievement:

Abdul-Baro Mughal
Diana-Carolina

Outstanding Progress:

CJ Okoli
Muna Diblawe

Supported Curriculum

Outstanding Progress:

Nathan De Freitas

Outstanding Achievement:

Shanze Yao

IT

Outstanding Achievement:

Jack-Eddie Abreu
Suna Gulen
Nathan Asiedu-Opuku

SAM Learning

Safiya Abdi-Nur
Ayman Abdulrahim

Pupil of the Term

Fadumo Ahmed

Outstanding Progress:
Keyla Munoz-Guilcapi
Imran Sankoh
Eiji Torres



**Jack Petchey
Award**

Yasiin Maxamud

**Top 3 CHABOP pupils
of the term**

Cuba French (278 pts)

Sarah Bello (272 pts)

Ma Meco Tesoro (256 pts)



CHABOP Winners

Christina Njoku (50-69 pts) – Prize: £25 JD Sports Voucher

Qadar Ali (70-99 pts) – Prize: Family cinema tickets

Muna Diblawe (100-199 pts) – Prize: iPod Shuffle

Cuba French (200-299 pts) – Prize: Kindle tablet



**St John Ambulance Cadet
Asdan Certificate of
Achievement**

Daniel Payne

**RSL Level 1 Award in
Popular Music
Performance / Grade 2
Vocals**

Harmony Reid

Phoenix Book Award 2014

This year, our pupils in 7A took part in the Phoenix Book Award 2014. As part of the programme, our pupils had to read a wide variety of books. After reading each book, the pupils had to write a detailed book review and publish them on the Phoenix Book Award website.

The Phoenix Book Award ceremony was held earlier this month where two of our pupils' book reviews were recognised as two of the best reviews this year.

Congratulations to our two winners: Mariana Ribeiro and Amina Diblawe.

The finale was an exciting occasion where our pupils were able to meet the authors of some of their favourite books. They were able to gain a fascinating insight into the authors' thoughts behind the books and the skills and creativity required of an author.

Our pupil, **Mariana**, said: *"It was a wonderful occasion. It was great to get to meet the authors and chat to them first-hand about their thinking behind their book."*

BOOKS THAT INSPIRED US



Two Platanos College pupils amongst the young readers and three authors at the Phoenix Book Award 2014 (photograph from the South London Press)

Jack Petchey 'Speak Out' Final

Early last term, two of our pupils reached the final of the annual Jack Petchey 'Speak Out' competition - the UK's largest youth speaking competition.

There were 21 finalists from 10 schools across Lambeth contesting in the annual public speaking competition.

In a darkened auditorium, our two Platanos College representatives were encouraged to the stage by the MC, last year's winner, our very own Patrick Ballesteros from Platanos College.

Abdullah Suleman was first onstage for Platanos College. He had chosen the subject of *"lying"* and during the course of his three minutes amused and entertained us with the problems that can befall us because of an inability to tell the truth.

Our second pupil, **Caterina Pereira**, caused the audience to question how they judged people by their appearance, and who was the more insecure – the person wearing make-up or the person who was unable to see the real person behind the make-up.

Our two contestants narrowly missed out on the top prize but they were brilliant and proved to be superb ambassadors of the school. Our supporters applauded and cheered, recognising the communication, confidence and courage of the contestants. Not only that, Platanos College's supporters far outnumbered those of other schools.

Elaine Powell herself, the organiser of the Speakers Trust, wrote to congratulate both Abdullah and Caterina on their performances:

"Abdullah and Catarina were fantastic yesterday. They were both composed and delivered polished, engaging and thought-provoking speeches. Please congratulate them again for me. I hope they are proud of themselves, I definitely am."

Our pupil, **Abdullah**, said: *"It was an amazing experience. It was challenging but the event has really pushed my skills up to another level. This has given me a lot of confidence."*



Patrick Ballesteros (from Platanos College), last year's winner, delivering the opening speech at the final.



Abdullah Suleman delivering his speech onstage and receiving his award from the Deputy Mayor of Lambeth, Mr Aminu.



Catarina Pereira delivering her speech onstage and receiving her award from the Deputy Mayor of Lambeth, Mr Aminu.

Educational trip to Ypres, Belgium

Last term, our pupils studying GCSE History had the valuable opportunity to attend a trip to Ypres, Belgium. Pupils on the fascinating trip visited the historical sites on which the First World War was fought 100 years ago.

The trip represented an excellent opportunity for pupils to strengthen their understanding of the subject and gain an insight into the nature of trench warfare. The trip included visits to Flanders Fields Museum, the Menin Gate, Tyne Cot British Cemetery and the British Dugout Experience at the Passchendaele Museum.

The trip proved to be a fascinating trip. Our pupil, **Joel Bryan**, said:

"The visits to the many historical sites were humbling and very insightful. It paints a very detailed picture of the topic that we're studying and I'm glad I attended."



Careers Programme in partnership with Capita

We are extremely pleased that we have been able to establish a partnership with Capita this year through the Business in the Community scheme. Capita plc is a large multinational company with expertise in a wide range of sectors.

Through this partnership, Capita will be delivering an integrated careers programme for our pupils throughout this year and beyond. These will include careers workshops, work experience opportunities, training and apprenticeships, and many more.

This began with a large careers workshop that was delivered earlier this month to our entire Year 10 group of pupils. The workshop provided our pupils with CV and interview surgeries, and skills mentoring amongst other activities to equip our pupils with the most current skills and knowledge.



Dragons' Den competition

The challenge of the Dragons' Den competition was met by a large number of pupils from Key Stage 3 this year as part of the school's Business and Enterprise programmes. Pupils had to submit a Business Plan and then present to a Dragons' Den panel in a bid to win funding for their business idea.

All the entrants this year proved to be a strong group. The Dragons probed each team of pupils with challenging questions, testing their business acumen and enterprise skills to select a winner. The Dragons had a difficult choice to make this year but an eventual winner was chosen.

Amongst the stiff competition, the chosen team this year was ***'T-vibez'***, from Year 9.

As the competition winners, they received the seed capital to put their business plan into action and trade on the school site.

Many congratulations to our Dragons' Den winners:

Sadidha Rahman, Hibaq Elmi, Fadumo Ahmed, Wardah Yassein, Jamila Karamoko, Anisa Hersi and Asma Djabali.



International Evening 2014

Our annual International Evening, traditionally organised by our pupils, parents, carers and staff, took place successfully again last month with an enormous range of events and activities.

The event this year saw an increase in attendance and in the scale of the activities on show. The event is a celebration of the cultural diversity at Platanos College with entertaining acts and a wonderful variety of food.

It is a great opportunity for everyone to share and learn about each other's culture and how such understanding can forge good relationships between communities to bring about positive change in the modern working environment.



One pupil, **Georgia Rafferty**, said: *"It was a fascinating event. Each culture is unique. I think by understanding each other's culture and qualities, we can contribute equally to achieve the same goals."*



Lambeth Schools Athletics Championship

Friday 16th May was a great day for our athletes this year. Our pupils from Year 7 to Year 10 took part in the Lambeth Schools Athletics Championship and were rewarded handsomely for their hard work and determination.

Our athletes excelled in the highly competitive, annual event and returned with winners' medals. Well done to our medal winners!

Year 8

Rami Miller Gold - 100m and Shot Putt

Year 9

Jamila Karamoko Gold - 100m

Jerome Anoché Gold - Javelin

Julia Tomczak Bronze - 800m

Year 10

Javarne Roberts Gold - 300m

R. J. Eytle-Rock Gold - Shot Putt and Javelin

Natasha Smith Silver - 200m

Bryony Bromfield Bronze - 300m



We are pleased to announce that our eight athletes have been selected to represent Lambeth borough in the London Schools Athletics Championship next month.

Army Cadet Field Camp

In May, our Army Cadets attended their first field camp, which involved a weekend of intensive training exercises. The camp was held at the Mereworth Woods Dry Training Area in Kent. The training consisted of a series of exciting tasks designed to both test and develop our cadets into confident members of the Combined Cadet Force (CCF).

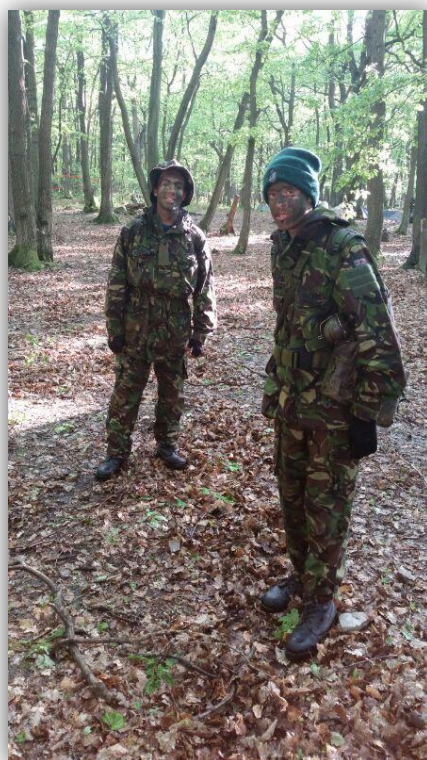
On arrival, the programme began with our cadets setting up camp in their patrols, including setting up their bashers (tent-like structures for sleeping). This was followed by patrol exercises and, later in the programme, training on ambush theory, camouflage, and 'Skill at Arms'.



As darkness fell on the first night, our cadets embarked on their final task – a close target reconnaissance mission. This involved patrolling and gathering 'enemy' data under stealth conditions and reporting back to base undetected.

The final day was concluded with an ambush exercise. The cadets, with full gear and equipment, had an early morning start and managed to complete the ambush routine on the 'enemy' successfully. It was certainly an action packed weekend for our cadets.

One of our cadets, **Cuba French**, said: *"The camp and activities was a lot of fun. I did not realise I*



could learn so much in one field trip. It was a unique experience because the things that we learnt was so wide ranging."

Our cadets were able to develop a range of skills on the camp, from precision communication and data gathering to team work and fitness.

Safeguarding at Platanos College

At Platanos College, we are committed to safeguarding and protecting the welfare of our pupils. Our **Designated Senior Person for Child Protection** is **Ms T. Williams**.

The dedicated Safeguarding contact email for pupils and parents/carers to raise any safeguarding concerns is safeguardingconcerns@platanoscollege.com.

There are also pupils in each tutor group who are fully trained as **Anti-Bullying Champions** and they meet regularly to discuss any issues that may arise.

The dedicated anti-bullying email address for pupils and parents/carers to raise any issues about bullying is abc@platanoscollege.com.

Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) and SAM Learning

So you want to make sure your child succeeds? Here are **two ways**.

Firstly, use our VLE: Virtual Learning Environment.

What is the VLE?

Platanos College's VLE (Virtual Learning Environment) is the College's on-line learning space. Unlike a normal web site it is a direct link between teachers and pupils, where such things like homework can be posted. There is both a pupil portal and a parent portal. As a parent you will be able to view such things as attendance, timetable and homework.

Accessing our VLE for Parents:

1. Go to <https://www.klp.rm.com>.
2. Enter your username and password (both supplied by Platanos College).
3. The first time you log on you will be asked to accept the terms and conditions. Click **"Yes"** and it will take you to the parents' aspect of the Platanos College Homework page. Click on the name of the subject teacher of your child. This will open and show five (5) folders. Click on the year group your child is in and the latest homework will be the file at the top of the list. (Homework is located in the "Shared Space" tab.)

4. If you click on "Home" in the left hand column of the page it will take you to the information on your child. *(You will only be able to see information about your own child, you cannot access other pupil's information and they cannot see anything about yours.)*

Another way is to use SAM Learning.

What is SAM Learning Go?

It is an online educational service, providing year-round learning.

It has been independently proven to raise attainment. Its simple approach focuses on interactive revision and "test question" practice to consolidate learning and increase confidence.

It helps raise achievement by providing high value services that enables your child to take more individual responsibility and improve their results.

SAM Learning can be accessed from any computer connected to the internet.

Accessing SAM Learning:

(Please note it is the pupil's log in account that it used)

- Go to www.samlearning.com
- You will need to enter the Centre ID, User ID and Password
- The Centre ID is **SW9OSP** (O as in the letter **not** the number)
- The user ID is the pupil's date of birth followed by their initials. For example if John Doe was born 01/05/2001, the **User ID will be 010501JD**

The **password** is initially the **same** as **the User ID**. For example **User ID** 010501JD would be **password** 010501JD. Once the pupil logs on they can change their password.

Your son or daughter can now work, with you, through "online" tasks, specifically targeted at their level. You can monitor and check your child's progress, diagnose where they need extra help and work with them to achieve the highest grades of which they are capable.

You can now make a difference. Help your child to success. Log on and give it a try.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mr N. James (Assistant Headteacher).

Key Dates

Monday 9th June 2014	Curriculum Evening, Year 7
Wednesday 11th June 2014	Curriculum Evening, Year 8
Monday 16th June 2014	Curriculum Evening, Year 9
Friday 20th June 2014	Graduation Evening, Year 11
Thursday 26th June 2014	Awards Evening (4–6 pm), Key Stage 3
Friday 27th June 2014	STAFF TRAINING DAY
Thursday 10th July 2014	Grammar School Pathway Exams
Friday 11th July 2014	Grammar School Pathway Exams
Saturday 12th July 2014	Parade Day (10–11.30 am)
Monday 14th July 2014	Grammar School Pathway Exams
Tuesday 15th July 2014	Sports Day
Wednesday 16th July 2014	Educational Trips
Thursday 17th July 2014	CHABOP Day (and preparation for Business Fayre)
Friday 18th July 2014	Business Fayre
Friday 18th July 2014	LAST DAY OF TERM

Uniform Shop Opening Times

Term time opening hours

Mondays: 9am - 12pm

Wednesdays: 3pm - 5pm

Extracurricular Clubs and Societies

Debating Society	Chess Club/Centre of Excellence for Maths
Cookery Club	Centre of Excellence for Science
Textiles Club	Technology Club
Photography Club	Art Club
Animation Club	Computer Club
French Club	Italian Club
Arabic Club	Peer Study Groups
Reading Club	Centre of Excellence for Modern Languages
Disabilities in Society	Centre of Excellence for Sports
Health and Well-being	Choir
Army Cadets	Girl Guides
Scouts	St. John Ambulance Cadets
First Aid Club	Drama Club

(Further information can be found on our website at www.platanoscollege.com)

E-Newsletter

If you would like to receive our regular E-Newsletter via email, please provide us with your email address by contacting us on 020 7733 6156 or emailing us at newsletter@platanoscollege.com.

The latest news and previous issues of our newsletters can be found on our website at www.platanoscollege.com.



PLATANOS COLLEGE

An outstanding school for
pupils of all abilities

Attitude Determines Altitude